

## Message Text

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46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-11 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00

COA-02 DLOS-07 SWF-02 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01

TAR-02 SP-03 AGR-20 AID-20 LAB-06 SIL-01 STR-08

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 SS-20 NSC-07 PRS-01 PA-04

DRC-01 /233 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3960

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECOSOC, ETRN

SUBJ: ECOSOC ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ITEM 12:

CONTAINER STANDARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL  
MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT

REF: USUN 1677

1. FOLLOWING IS A DRAFT DECISION PREPARED BY BRAZILIANS, MEXICANS, ARGENTINES, PAKISTANIS AND A LARGE NUMBER, ACCORDING TO MEXICAN DEL, OF OTHER LDC'S. DRAFT DECISION REFLECTS THE AGENDA POSITION OF THE U.S. AS DESCRIBED IN POSITION PAPER, AND AGREED TO BY BRAZIL AND MEXICO IN CONSULTATIONS. DRAFT DECISION, HOWEVER, IGNORES U.S. INTERVENTION IN DEBATE TO HAVE IMCO BE MAJOR FACTOR IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP, AS WELL AS EFFORTS BEHIND THE SCENES TO REACH SOME ACCOMMODATION

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WITH PREVAILING VIEW THAT UNCTAD SHOULD BE MAJOR

FACTOR, ALTHOUGH SOME CONCESSION MADE WHEN LDC'S AGREED TO INCLUDE UN SECRETARIAT (ESA) AS HAVING SOME VOICE IN PREPARATORY AND SUBSTANTIVE ARRANGEMENTS ALONG WITH IMCO.

2. OUR VIEW IS THAT THIS IS AS FAR AS WE CAN GO IN PRESENT CLIMATE. AS NOTED REFTTEL IT MAY TURN OUT THAT FRANCE WILL TRY AND CHANGE DRAFT DECISION TO FURTHER WEAKEN OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO AGENDA. WE WILL ATTEMPT, OF COURSE, TO PREVENT THIS THROUGH FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH BRAZIL AND OTHERS.

3. QUESTION NOW IS HOW U.S. IS TO VOTE ON DRAFT DECISION. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ASAP.

4. TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION:  
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. REQUESTS THE SEC-GEN OF UNCTAD TO CONVENE AN AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP AS ENVISAGED IN ITS RES 1742 (LIV) CONSISTING OF 48 MEMBERS, FOLLOWING THE PATTERN OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP ON A CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT;

2. RECOMMENDS THAT THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP (I) SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF REF:

(A) TO ASSESS THE WORK DONE BY ISO ON FREIGHT CONTAINERS:

(B) TO ASSESS THE WORK DONE BY ISO ON PALLETS, PACKAGING, HANDLING EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT INSOFAR AS THEY RELATE TO FREIGHT CONTAINERS:

(C) TO ASSESS THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN BY GOVERNMENTS TO THE WORK OF ISO ON FREIGHT CONTAINERS, INTER ALIA, THROUGH NATIONAL STANDARDS BODIES;

(D) TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF STANDARDIZATION IN THE FIELD OF CONTAINER TRANSPORT ON THE ECONOMY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

(E) TO RECOMMEND, TAKING FULLY INTO ACCOUNT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED UPON ON SUBPARAGRAPH (C) ABOVE, THE FUTRE ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN THIS FIELD, WITH A VIEW TO CONSIDER INTER ALIA THE PRACTICABILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF EVENTUALLY DRAWING UP AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON CONTAINER STANDARDS: AND

(F) TO REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTIETH SESSION:

(II) SHOULD CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING AGENDA:

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
3. REPORT OF ISO ON ITS WORK ON FREIGHT CONTAINERS:
4. REPORT OF ISO ON ITS WORK ON PALLETS, PACKAGING HANDLING EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT INsofar AS THEY RELATE TO FREIGHT CONTAINERS:
5. REPORT OF THE SEC GEN OF UNCTAD ON THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN BY GOVERNMENTS TO THE WORK OF ISO ON FREIGHT CONTAINERS;
6. CONSIDERATION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WORK ACHIEVED WITHIN UNCTAD IN RELATION TO INT'L INTERMODAL TRANSPORT, THE REPORTS OF THE ISO AND THE SEC GEN OF UNCTAD AS WELL AS AN ANALYTICAL STUDY TO BE PRESENTED BY HIM AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, OF:
  - (A) THE IMPACT OF STANDARDIZATION IN THE FIELD OF CONTAINER TRANSPORT
  - (B) THE PRACTICABILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF EVENTUALLY DRAFTING AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON CONTAINER STANDARDS, IN THE LIGHT OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED ON SUBPARAGRAPH (A) ABOVE: AND
  - (C) OTHER POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN THE OVERALL FIELD OF INT'L STANDARDIZATION CONCERNING MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS, WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC AREAS WHICH MAY REQUIRE PARTICULAR ATTENTION AT THE INT'L LEVEL IN THE FORTHCOMING YEARS:

3. RECOMMENDS TO THE SEC-GEN OF UNCTAD TO INVITE ESA, THE APPROPRIATE AREGIONAL BODIES AND OTHER INTERESTED INT'L ORGANIZATIONS, IN PARTICULAR IMCO AND ICAO TO CO-OPERATE FULLY IN THE PREPARATION AND IN THE WORK WITH THE AD HOC INTER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENTAL GROUP.  
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## Message Attributes

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